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Intersection Improvements at Illinois 53 and Hoff Road, Part of High-Speed Rail Program

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that closures will take place near the intersection of Illinois 53 and Hoff Road, in Elwood, for an intersection improvement project, beginning, weather permitting, Monday, August 15. The improvements are part of the Chicago-to-St. Louis high-speed rail program.

In order to complete the work, Hoff Road will be closed east of Illinois 53 until Winter of 2016. Illinois 53 also will be reduced to one lane in each direction while construction activities are taking place.

A posted detour will direct eastbound traffic on Hoff Road to go north on Illinois 53, east on Mississippi Avenue, and south on Chicago Street to meet back up with Hoff Road. Westbound traffic on Hoff Road will take the reverse route. Access to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery will be maintained at all times.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

The improvements to the intersection include the addition of right and left turn lanes on southbound Illinois 53 at Hoff Road, as well as the installation of new traffic signals and drainage structure. The overall project is expected to be completed in Spring 2017.

The upgrades are part of the high-speed rail program to accommodate passenger service between Chicago and St. Louis at speeds up to 110 mph, reducing the length of the trip by one hour. The entire corridor is tentatively scheduled to be complete by the end of 2017. Approximately 150 crossings along the route will be improved to include additional safety features.

For details on other upcoming closures and additional information on the high-speed rail program, visit www.idothsr.org.

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